

From: ["Thomas. Hattie" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE>](mailto:Thomas.Hattie@EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B1EBAFC79FA94F308D9F6EBB0424E75A-THOMAS.HATTIE)
To:
CC:
Date: 8/6/2013 3:43:37 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 8/6/13

OPA Daily Digest for 8/6/13

Congressional Inquiries:

Rep. William Lacy Clay (Mo.) 7/31/13: Coordination of information sharing with citizens group and local residents about cleanup efforts at the West Lake Landfill site. Due: 8/14/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.) 8/6/13: West Lake Landfill FUSRAP designation. Due: 8/20/13. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Charles Grassley (Iowa) 8/5/13: Additional questions on removal of lime solids. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (open)

Rep. Jeff Fortenberry (Neb) 8/6/13: Questions on water quality testing performed by the Winnebago Tribe. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (closed)

State Government Inquiries:

Rep. Charles Isenhardt (Iowa): 8/2/13: Questions on EPA meeting in Iowa on July 23. Contact: Sarah Hatch, 7199 (closed)

Press Inquiries:

None

Environmental Stories:

Sioux City Journal - Protestors demand more access to Iowa water-quality meetings - 8/5/13 - A dozen or so protesters stood outside Gov. Terry Branstad's offices Monday demanding more public access to the state's meetings with the Environmental Protection Agency.

http://siouxcityjournal.com/news/state-and-regional/iowa/protestors-demand-more-access-to-iowa-water-quality-meetings/article_2ab5291e-4994-5a7f-838b-f793a3c23e9e.html?comment_form=true

Radio Iowa - Iowa CCI protestors object to governor's conduct of EPA negotiations - 8/5/13 - Nearly a dozen members of Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement crowded into the governor's outer office today to protest his handling of clean water regulations.

<http://www.radioiowa.com/2013/08/05/iowa-cci-protestors-object-to-governors-conduct-of-epa-negotiations/>

Quad-City Times - Water quality meetings spark protest - 8/5/13 - A dozen or so protesters stood outside Gov. Terry Branstad's offices Monday demanding more public access to the state's meetings with the Environmental Protection Agency.

http://qctimes.com/news/state-and-regional/iowa/water-quality-meetings-spark-protest/article_abcb8e64-32cd-5a05-a714-fc648fa1d7c3.html

Des Moines Register - Iowa CCI protests in governor's office over water quality negotiations - 8/5/13 - Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement on Monday continued its agitation over the inclusion of agriculture and commodity groups in discussions about Iowa water quality by camping out in Gov. Terry Branstad's office during his weekly press conference.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20130805/NEWS/130805018/1056/news05>

The Hill - Oil industry huddled with administration to protest renewable fuel standard - 8/5/13 - The oil-and-gas industry has been airing its grievances with the Obama administration over the way it has been running a program that calls for biofuel to be mixed with conventional gasoline.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/regwatch/pending-regs/315633-oil-industry-huddled-with-administration-to-protest-renewable-fuel-standard>

Mason City Globe Gazette - Protesters want more access to meetings with EPA - 8/6/13 - A dozen or so protesters stood outside Gov. Terry Branstad's offices Monday demanding more public access to the state's meetings with the Environmental Protection Agency.

http://globegazette.com/news/iowa/protesters-want-more-access-to-meetings-with-epa/article_1403a90e-fe58-11e2-af2c-001a4bcf887a.html

KFDI Radio - KDHE to hold public meeting on Butler County landfill - 8/6/13 - The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will hold a public meeting Tuesday to get input on modifying the Butler County landfill.

<http://www.kfdi.com/news/local/KDHE-to-hold-public-meeting-on-Butler-County-landfill-218452311.html>

Ethanol Producer Magazine - EPA finalizes 2013 RFS volumes, extends compliance deadline - 8/6/13 - The U.S. EPA has finalized the 2013 volume requirements for the renewable fuel standard (RFS). The final 2013 overall volumes and standards require 16.55 billion gallons of renewable fuels to be blended into the U.S. fuel supply. At this blend level, biofuels will make up 9.74 percent of U.S. transportation fuel.

<http://www.ethanolproducer.com/articles/10109/epa-finalizes-2013-rfs-volumes-extends-compliance-deadline>

The Wall Street Journal - White House May Cut Ethanol Mandate - 8/6/13 - The Obama administration is set to announce that it will propose changes to the U.S. ethanol mandate next year, according to people briefed on the matter, opening the door to a first-ever reduction of the requirement.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323968704578652011231792732.html>

Bloomberg Businessweek - Ethanol RINs Plunge on Speculation EPA to Announce Final Rules - 8/6/13 - The value of certificates that track compliance with a U.S. mandate to use ethanol plunged on speculation that the Obama administration will release final targets for this year and may adjust the requirements.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2013-08-06/ethanol-rins-plunge-on-speculation-epa-to-announce-final-rules>

Mason City Globe Gazette - Protesters want more access to meetings with EPA - 8/6/13 - A dozen or so protesters stood outside Gov. Terry Branstad's offices Monday demanding more public access to the state's meetings with the Environmental Protection Agency. Members of Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement held signs and passed out fliers claiming the governor "has undermined negotiations between the Iowa (Department of Natural Resources) and the U.S."

http://globegazette.com/news/iowa/protesters-want-more-access-to-meetings-with-epa/article_1403a90e-fe58-11e2-af2c-001a4bcf887a.html

Financial Times - US biofuel mandate change hits ethanol credits - 8/6/13 - High quality global journalism requires investment. Please share this article with others using the link below, do not cut & paste the article. See our Ts&Cs and Copyright Policy for more detail. The US government plans to cut back its biofuel mandate for the first time next year, in a victory for oil companies that argued it was distorting petrol markets. The Renewable Fuel Standard passed by Congress in 2007 has become a bitter battleground between the oil industry and biofuels producers based in corn-belt states such as Iowa and Nebraska.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/543b4ef8-feb9-11e2-97dc-00144feabdc0.html#axzz2bDr1E2KD>

Wall Street Journal - EPA to Propose Cut in Renewable-Fuel Mandate - 8/6/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency said Tuesday it will propose cutting next year's federal mandate for using alternative motor fuels, a reversal that comes as Congress heightens scrutiny of the program. The agency said it would seek to reduce the amount of "renewable" fuel that the oil industry must blend into the U.S. gasoline supply, a move that could shrink the market for ethanol and other products.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323968704578652011231792732.html>

The Hill - Almost eight months late, EPA sets 2013 biofuel blend requirement - 8/6/13 - The Obama administration is calling for 16.55 billion of gallons of renewable fuel to be blended in with conventional gasoline this year as part of a federal program designed to wean the country off foreign oil and explore new energy sources. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on Tuesday announced its yearly requirement under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), nearly eight months past the legal due date of last November.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/regwatch/energyenvironment/315761-epa-calls-for-mixing-165-billion-gallons-of-biofuel-with-gas-in-2013>

Bloomberg - Ethanol RINs Plunge on Speculation EPA to Announce Final Rules - 8/6/13 - The value of certificates that track compliance with a U.S. mandate to use ethanol plunged on speculation that the Obama administration will release final targets for this year and may adjust the requirements. Corn-based ethanol Renewable Identification Numbers dropped 17 percent to 85 cents, the lowest level since May 28, data compiled by Bloomberg show.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-08-06/ethanol-rins-plunge-on-speculation-epa-to-announce-final-rules.html>

Reuters - COLUMN-EPA offers palliative, not a cure, for RINsanity: Campbell - 8/6/13 - Eight months after the legal deadline the Obama Administration has released the 2013 Renewable Fuels Standard rule. More importantly it promised waivers next year that will supposedly keep this badly designed law from inflating gasoline prices.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/08/06/column-campbell-idUSL1N0G71BY20130806>

Huffington Post - EPA Finalizes Biofuel Standards For 2013, Plans To Lower Volume Goal For 2014 - 8/6/13 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on Tuesday maintained its overall target for biofuel use in 2013, but said it would use its authority to lower the volume goal for 2014 from the current requirement. The decision to adjust biofuel targets for 2014 should offer relief to refiners squeezed by rising prices for renewable fuel credits, known as RINs.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/08/06/epa-biofuel-targets-2013-renewable-fuel-standards_n_3714395.html?utm_hp_ref=green

Huffington Post - Will EPA Protect Our Families From Toxic Coal Water Pollution? - 8/6/13 - In 1982, complying with a federal court order stemming from a lawsuit filed by environmentalists, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, finally issued regulations governing toxic pollution discharges under the 1972 Clean Water Act. Industry polluters had used political clout to delay those regulations for a decade.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/robert-f-kennedy-jr/epa-coal-water-pollution_b_3714068.html

CounterPunch - Inside the Censored EPA Fracking Water Study - 8/6/13 - DeSmogBlog has obtained a copy of an Obama Administration Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) fracking groundwater contamination PowerPoint presentation describing a then-forthcoming study's findings in Dimock, Pennsylvania. The PowerPoint presentation reveals a clear link between hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") for shale gas in Dimock and groundwater contamination, but was censored by the Obama Administration. Instead, the EPA issued an official desk statement in July 2012 - in the thick of election year - saying the water in Dimock was safe for consumption.

<http://www.counterpunch.org/2013/08/06/inside-the-censored-epa-pennsylvania-fracking-water-contamination-study/>

Business Insider - Gas Country Newspaper Calls On EPA To Reopen Water Contamination Probe - 8/6/13 - Last summer, the Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] ended an investigation into the potential contamination of water near natural gas wells in the town of Dimock, Penn. and determined the water was safe. Now, the Scranton Times-Tribune is calling on the EPA to reopen the investigation.

<http://www.businessinsider.com/dimock-wants-new-epa-methane-investigation-2013-8>

Environment & Energy Publishing - White House meeting part of new, uncertain relationship between EPA, industry - 8/6/13 - Last week's much-touted White House meeting between Obama administration environmental leaders and West Virginia Democrats on coal was part of what advocates are calling an increasing dialogue between both sides of the contentious debate. U.S. EPA and top lobby groups alike have been stressing cooperation rather than disagreement about proposed and potential rules affecting coal-

powered electricity and mining.

<http://www.eenews.net/stories/1059985676>

Bloomberg - EPA Gives Refiners More Time on Fuel Quota (VIDEO) - 8/6/13 - The Environmental Protection Agency gave refiners additional time to meet renewable fuel quotas, although it left unchanged this year's mandate to use 16.55 billion gallons of those fuels. Peter Cook reports on Bloomberg Television's "Bloomberg West".

<http://www.bloomberg.com/video/epa-gives-refiners-more-time-on-fuel-quota-IWEXo5chT76t95KCrzyw8w.html>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

Public Comment Period Announced – A-TEC Recycling Inc. TSCA-PCB Commercial Storage Application, Des Moines, Iowa – 8/6/13 – Contact: Beckie Himes, 7253

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

8/15/13 – Iowa Farm Environmental Leader Awards Ceremony, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

8/19/13 - Meet and greet with CID KCAO – Carlos Rivera, Regional Office. Contact: Mike Burnett, 7990

8/27/13 – Visit Kickapoo Nation, Horton, Kan. Contact: Wolfgang Brandner, 7381

9/9/13 - Interagency Environmental Leadership Council, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Ron Hammerschmidt, 7566

9/13/13 – Kansas State Fair, Hutchinson, Kan. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

10/15/13 - 2013 Fall Water Symposium, Lincoln, Neb. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

10/29-30/13 - SES National Executive Leadership Development Conference, Washington, DC. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

DRA:

10/29-30/13 - SES National Executive Leadership Development Conference - Washington, DC. Contact: Becky Weber, 7487

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

8/7/13 – Attending quarterly meeting with MDNR, Sedalia, Mo. Contact: Amy Bhesania, 7147.

9/18/13 – Providing training to the Allergy Foundation of America, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Bob Dye, 7605.

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

None

ENSV

None

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

8/8/13 – Public meeting in Hastings, Neb., to present the Proposed Plan for the Garvey Elevator site to the public for comment. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

8/15/13 – Oronogo-Duenweg Mining Belt Superfund site public meeting, Joplin, Mo. Contact: Debbie Kring, 7725

SUPR

8/5 - 9/13 - Groundwater contamination investigation, Plating Inc Superfund site, Great Bend, Kan. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

8/12 - 16/13 - Groundwater contamination investigation and site-related meetings, Plating Inc. Superfund site, Great Bend, Kan. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

8/13-14/13 – EPA/DOD Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program and Environmental Security Technology Certification Program conference, Washington, DC. Contact: Clint Sperry, 7157

8/19-8/23/13 - Groundwater contamination investigation, Plating Inc Superfund site, Great Bend, Kan. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

8/26-8/29/13 - Groundwater contamination investigation, Plating Inc Superfund site, Great Bend, Kan. Contact: Matthew Jefferson, 7520

8/28/13 – State of Missouri – Chem/Bio Functional Exercise, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Megan Schuette, 7630

WWPD

8/14-15/13 – Iowa Department of Natural Resources Public Water System Supervision Coordination meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Neftali Hernandez-Santiago, 7036

8/14/13 - Kansas Department of Health and Environment program implementation issues, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Steve Schaff, 7447

8/19/13 - Kansas Department of Health and Environment program implementation issues, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Steve Schaff, 7447

8/20-22/13 – Meet with WinnaVegas and Santee Sioux, Stage 2 Disinfection By-Products plans, Sloan, Iowa and Niobrara, Neb. Contact: Kimberly Willis, 7069

8/26/13 – Missouri Department of Natural Resources Public Water System Supervision Coordination meeting, Jefferson City, Mo. Contacts: Neftali Hernandez-Santiago, 7036, Carolyn Mitchell, 7187, Robert Dunlevy, 7798

8/26/13 - Kansas Department of Health and Environment program implementation issues, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Steve Schaff, 7447

Hattie L. Thomas

Acting Director

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